

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 5, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 130

Introduced by Assembly Member Rendon

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Allen, Ammiano, Atkins, Bigelow, Bloom, Bocanegra, Bonilla, Bonta, Bradford, Brown, Buchanan, Ian Calderon, Chau, Chávez, Chesbro, Conway, Cooley, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Eggman, Fong, Beth Gaines, Garcia, Gatto, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gorell, Gray, Grove, Hagman, Hall, Harkey, Holden, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Linder, Maienschein, Mansoor, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Muratsuchi, Nazarian, Nestande, Olsen, Pan, Patterson, Perea, John A. Pérez, V. Manuel Pérez, Quirk, Quirk-Silva, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Skinner, Stone, Ting, Wagner, Weber, Wieckowski, Wilk, Williams, and Yamada)

April 2, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 130—Relative to “Parks Make Life Better!” Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 130, as amended, Rendon. Parks Make Life Better! Month.

This measure would declare the Legislature’s recognition of the importance of access to local parks, trails, open space, and facilities for the health and development of all Californians. This measure would also declare the month of July 2014 as “Parks Make Life Better!” Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, A 2009 public opinion research study, conducted
- 2 by the California Park and Recreation Society, revealed that 98

1 percent of California's households visit a local park and 50 percent
2 of California households participate in an organized recreation
3 program annually; and

4 WHEREAS, California's residents value their local parks and
5 recreation services, as they provide access to the serenity and
6 inspiration of nature, outdoor spaces, and places for play and
7 exercise; facilities for directed and self-directed recreation;
8 activities that facilitate social connections, human development,
9 the arts, and lifelong learning; and positive alternatives for youth
10 that help lower crime and mischief; and

11 WHEREAS, The 2010 California Obesity Prevention Plan states
12 the following:

13 (a) One in every nine California children, one in three teens,
14 and over 50 percent of adults are already overweight or obese, and
15 obesity affects virtually all age, income, educational, ethnic, and
16 disability groups.

17 (b) Research has shown that where people live, work, and play
18 impacts obesity. For example, in Imperial County, 73 percent of
19 adults are overweight or obese, while only 43 percent of San
20 Francisco City and County adults are overweight or obese.

21 (c) California's costs attributable to physical inactivity, obesity,
22 and excess body weight in 2006 were estimated at forty-one billion
23 two hundred million dollars (\$41,200,000,000). In contrast, a
24 5-percent improvement in each of these risk factors could result
25 in an annual savings of nearly two billion four hundred million
26 dollars (\$2,400,000,000).

27 (d) To address obesity, the state must ensure that all California
28 residents have access to safe places to play and be active; and

29 WHEREAS, California's 10 Step Vision for a Healthy California
30 is a call to action to transform the state so that all Californians can
31 enjoy healthy eating and active living, resulting in all of the
32 following:

33 (a) Every day, every child will participate in physical activity.

34 (b) California's adults will be physically active every day.

35 (c) Neighborhoods, communities, and buildings will support
36 physical activity, including safe walking, stair climbing, and
37 bicycling; and

38 WHEREAS, The Governor, Legislature, and citizens have
39 prioritized efforts to increase physical activity, access to nature,
40 spaces for play and exercise, the arts, lifelong learning, and social

1 connections among children and adults through the approval of
2 statewide park bond programs; and

3 WHEREAS, The California Park & Recreation Society promotes
4 the positive personal and community benefits of parks, open space,
5 trails, recreation facilities and programs, nature education, and
6 sports for able and disabled children, teens, adults, and seniors;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, Participation in physical activities can lower a
9 citizen's risk of developing chronic health problems, such as high
10 blood pressure, asthma, heart disease, and diabetes, and also help
11 children grow up to be healthier adults; and

12 WHEREAS, The California Park & Recreation Society has
13 released a statewide public awareness campaign, "Parks Make
14 Life Better!" to inform citizens of the many benefits of utilizing
15 parks, facilities, programs, and services; now, therefore, be it

16 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
17 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes the importance
18 of access to local parks, trails, open space, and facilities such as
19 swimming pools, skate parks, dog parks, tennis courts, nature
20 centers, and museums, for the health and development of all
21 Californians; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Legislature declares the month of July 2014
23 as "Parks Make Life Better!" Month; and be it further

24 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
25 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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